

In the week between Christmas and New Year, Reg put a *For Sale* on the property next door that we have owned for 5 years – and sold within 23 hours – for our price! What a great lead-in to 2010. With part of the property sale proceeds, we bought a new car for Jan – Mazda 6 Sports Hatch with all the bells and whistles. For a while, it was a race to be first into the driver’s seat – especially as the *His* and *Hers* keys automatically adjusted the driver’s seat position. (*‘For a while’ ! – it’s still a race with Reg driving it more than Jan – Ed*).



In March, we treated the Trustees of our Family Trust to a Mystery Break in Queenstown in appreciation of 18 years of service which included a trip on Lake Wakatipu in the Steamship Earnslaw to Walter Peak for lunch one day, and the Skyline Restaurant by cable car for lunch on another. We had a dinner at Lake Hayes where we had been previously for Reg’s birthday.



At the end of the month, we watched as Larissa did a tandem parachute jump with her uncle. She was ecstatic.

In April, we drove Jan’s Avalon down to Nelson for Lyndell, and swapped it for the Maxima we had given her 6 years earlier. While in the South Island, we spent a few days with Paul, Miro and Solix and got to know the boys a little better. We arrived home in time for Cherie’s 40th party, and shortly after, were congratulating her and Mike Weitenberg on the announcement of their engagement.



As we hinted in last year’s Christmas letter, we were on the lookout for a pre-loved mobilehome, but while inspecting one at a dealers, Jan fell in love with a high spec’d new English import. At this time, we were putting the finishing touches on our planned Europe/UK trip focusing on the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany in late July and the middle of this 3 month trip included four weeks in total in the UK. So we ordered one to use in the UK with the intention of bringing it home. As it turned out, it couldn’t be delivered before we left, so we had to hire one, and ours won’t arrive until early 2011.

Before we headed off in late July, we shared in Larissa’s baptism, a real thrill.

We flew to UK via Singapore (and return) in the much maligned Airbus A380 and thoroughly enjoyed our Business Class/Premium Economy travel. Unfortunately, Reg badly sprained his ankle during our 4 days in Singapore which limited some all our walking for the next three months, and is still a problem. Our trip



Greek Islands



Gallipoli



Turkey

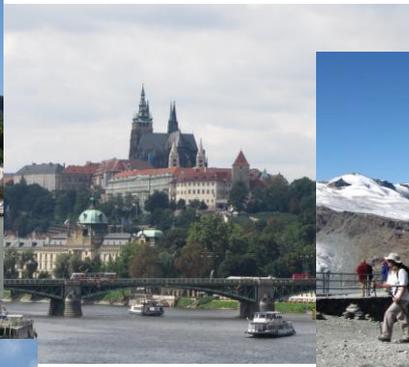
commenced with a lazy 10 day cruise around the Greek Islands, three Intense weeks touring a hot Turkey/Greece (40 C) in “The Steps of St Paul’ including Gallipoli, concluding at the emotional Oberammergau Passion Play. After a couple of weeks touring UK (as far north as York/Whitby), we went to magnificent Prague for a few days before embarking on a leisurely week long cruise down the beautiful Danube to Budapest, followed by a week touring around amazing Switzerland.



Whitby



Danube River



Budapest



The Matterhorn, Switzerland



Henley Lock, Thames



Windsor Castle



Winston Churchill, Chartwell House



Canterbury Cathedral

Back to the UK for another couple of weeks staying river on the banks of the Thames River with our good friends Richard and Janet Burfitt (our base in the UK at Hurley) who took us to Windsor Castle, a cruise up the river past Henley. We then toured in a motorhome to the East (Dover, Chartwell (Winston Churchill's home), Canterbury/Margate). In our final visit to the motorhome dealer, we delivered 8 boxes of 'stuff' to come home in the van.

On our trip home, we spent a week in Sydney, staying with Joyanne and Paul so that we could join Joyanne's family on the 70th birthday party of my 'old' friend Noel – her father. They drove us to Canberra to "Floriade", a magnificent tulip display,



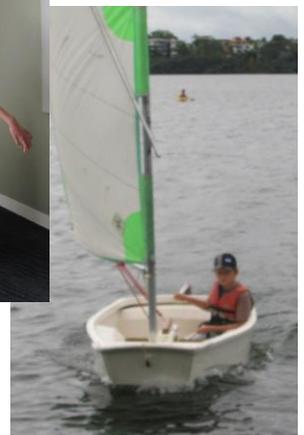
And finally home after 90 days to a 350mm pile of mail and 500 email messages – even though I had kept up-to-date with the priority emails while overseas. We shrank 6500 photos to 3500, and eventually printed 2000. Happily everything was in order when we got home, thanks to good friends keeping a watchful eye out.

Shortly after we arrived home, we attended Mike and Cherie's lovely wedding at Harbourside Church with Larissa being an attendant for Cherie, and Marcus the ring bearer along with Mike's two children.



1958 Dinner

As a trip down memory lane, we attended the 75th Jubilee celebrations of the Auckland Baptist Harriers which Reg used to run in 55 years ago and then attended Larissa's Funky Feet end-of-year dance concert. Marcus and two other boys distinguished themselves in their last year at Campbells Bay Primary, by winning the North Shore Optimist Yacht competitions. Larissa grew while we are away and is now 3" taller than Jan. Next year, Larissa moves to year 10 (4th Form) at Rangitoto College, and Marcus shifts to the Murrays Bay Intermediate (Year 7)



Jan's activities provided her with a busy year involving her embroidery group 'Just Sew' celebrating 20 years, her local Coffee Club on a Friday morning has become a major church outreach with four special meetings a year held in the church hall, Garden Club outings, her Monarch Butterflies releasing 1700 this year, and speaking to groups about the magic and beauty of the Monarch.

We continue to go to North Shore on Wednesdays where Reg spends time in the office as he continues to work for Comworth and we see the family in the afternoons. We are blessed with generally good health. We send our Christmas greetings to you.

Jan and Reg

